STACKS

New London County Historical Society

11 Blinman Street SHAW MANSION New London, Conn.

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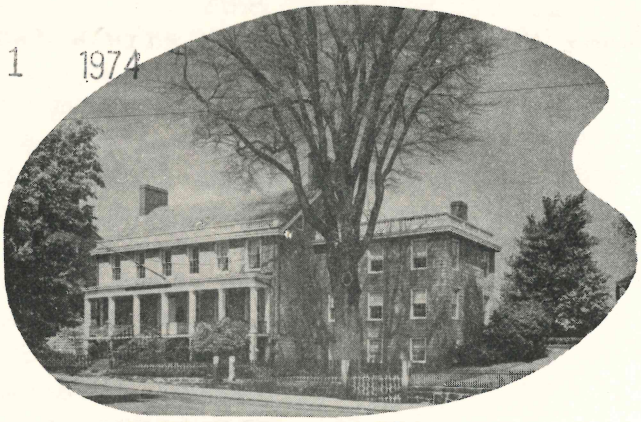

Quarterly Bulletin

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LANDMARK NOW GONE

We are taking this means to inform those who don't go by the Mansion, that the old house, owned by the Woviotis family, which stood on the ledge at the left of the Shaw Mansion, has disappeared. It was older that this one, but hadn't had the loving care this one has had. During this century, it had been cut up into apartments, stairs moved and changed, rooms changed, additions put on, so that in the end, it bore no resemblance to what it had been, except for the graceful lines of the outer shell. We had hoped to be allowed to buy it and save it maybe through the good graces of some grant, but when that idea was turned down by the owners, the plan had to be abandoned. Then while it was in the process of being stripped of what might have been left in the way of old boards, doors, etc., we went through it, and our sadness at losing it or the chance of restoring it, rapidly turned to a feeling of relief. It was so far gone it would have taken more money than we could ever have hoped to obtain. But we do have a nice picture of the way it might have looked, in the watercolor given us by the Union Trust Co., of this place. The artist has seen through the additions to the basic lines of the house, and given it a dignity it has lacked for many years now.

NEW LONDON FURNITURE SHOW

Several pieces of the furniture in the Mansion are to be loaned to Lyman Allyn Museum for their show of pieces made in New London County. They are loaning us a sofa and card table to fill the empty places in the drawing-room, but in the bedrooms, the gaps will remain, until the furniture is returned. Two of the family portraits are going along, too, so we are going to look slightly bare on the second floor. We can fill up the place of one with somebody who is now stored on the third floor, but the other is one of the large ones, and we can'tpossibly find a substitute.

DIARY OF ABEL SPICER , 1758 (cont.)

Sunday 30. this morning about Sun rise We marched on again and jest as we had got one our march we heard the Indeons hollow again and we marched one towards the noise and about 9 a clock we came to the place where they incamped, and the showting that we heard in the morning was supposed to be the time when they marched of and they Wrote one the trees that they had got seven prisoners and 2 of them wimmen. and they Wrote that that their Skout was 1800 hundred strong and after we had beene there a little while there was a man hollowed several times on the other Side of the bay and major Rogers answerded him and he continued hollowing and two men Swom over the bay for to see if they could find what was the mater but major rogers did keep hollwing to him and asked him Why he did not come to the water side and he said that he was so week he could not and these men that swom over came back for fear that he was sent for to lead them into some Snare and major Rogers Still hollowed to him for to come to the worter side and at last he got there and major Rogers did Climb into the top of a large tree and then he exammined him from where he came and he said he was taken by 3 Indeons at the bluddy pond which was between lake George and half way brook and the Indeons carryed him away by the South Bay almost to by Condaroga and they all lay down and went to Sleep and While they was a Sleep he Run away from them - and he had five days allowance When he was taken and he had been five weeks in the woods and nothing elce for to Eat but he could find in the woods, sometimes Goosberris and huckelberris and sum sort of roots, but he was almost ded and begd for help. and then they made craft and brought him over and he was so weak that he Could not travel and they made a bier and We brought him About 11 miles and then We came to our battos and While We was Gon the men that was left to take Care of the battows was surprised in the night and thought that they Spyed some french battos and put back to the Camps and they Immediately Sent out one thousand Regulars and as many provinsuls to the Same place where we left our battoes and we came to them at night and We all incamped one a sma island a small distance from the shore. And the Wind blew verry hard and it rained almost all night and in the morning there was several of the battoes Stove in by the seas tossing them one against another.

Munday 31. This hath been a very wet month. We lay here this day til amost night and then We Pushed of and Came down to the Island Where the advance gard was kep and there was stoped about Midnight. Some lay in their battoes for the Island Would not contain them all but What it Was for it was not nown. but in the morning We heard that there was a number of Indeons and french seen between fort Edward and half Way brook and there a larg Skout sent after them. Tusday August 1th. this morning by Sunrise we all pushed of and landed one an Island about :10:or 12 miles down the lake and lay there... Major Rogers landed one another Island about 100 rods from the Island where Major Putm landed and they had there pervisions left of to them for four days skout and then they pushed of to the shore and then major Putman went one the same Island and there was not Pervision anuf for them and they sent back after more. Wednesday 2th. this morning major Putmans men had ten days Pervision delt out to us and major rogers had as mutch for him men and they wwas about 100 Regulars and about 150 of the light infantry and about 400 of the rangers.. and marched of about 9 a clock and they was drawed up in three Colums when they marched and major Rogers marched in the front and Major Putman in the Rer

and the Counter Sine for the Skout was boston. That was if any man should hail you: you must answer boston and if you haild anybody and they did not answer boston you must take them to be an enemy... Thursday 3th. ... and then we marched again til we came to the hed of the bay ... and there was Sheds made of bark that looked as they had been made fore or five days... Tuesday 8: our Officers shot at mark thinking there was no danger and about 7 a clock we marched of in a single file and major Putman men in the front and Rogers in the rear. (piece torn off, evidently attacked by French and Indians) and the reer was near a mile behind but the reer wheled to the right which brought us into a half surkle and then we began to drive them and Major rogers sent a party of a hundred men one a small hill and the right flank for to take the advantage of the ground and the rest of them was in a half Surkle and then major rogers Sent of to fort edward for a recruit of men and then he hollowed to the french and Said Come up, you french dogs, like me and then he hollowed to the ofiser one the hil and asked him if he wanted more men, if he did he should have 500, which was for to friten the french and they did not Stand it but a leatle while longer but hollowed for to get togather and run of as fast as they could. the fight lasted about two hours but after they had gone we buryed the ded and brought up the wounded. And about Sunset the party from fort Edward met us about halfways from fort Edward to fort An and then the recruits caryed the wounded and We traveled til :9: or 10: a clock... and they brought out dockters and they dressed some of the wounded in the night, and two men dyed of their Wounds before morning. Wednesday :9th: this morning about sunrise We marched and came to fort Edward... and carryed the wounded men to the hospital and Colonel fitch took an account of all that was wounded and missing for to send by the post for to be put into the prints. Out of colonel Whitins there was amost half wounded and mising, they being in the front, there was not but on Comissioner went from the regiment and he was an Insine and he was Shot in the body with five bulits and one in the arm and he was skelped and striped and but one sarjant from the regiment and he was kild and but two corprals and they was both wounded, one shot through the thy and the other through the hand so that we had no oficer left. (to be cont.)

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ACCESSIONS

Ms. Recollections of attending Ulysses Dow's School, by S.B.Simmonds, grandfather of donor - Gift of Miss Margaret Simmonds, Belmont, Mass.
Cherry washstand - Anonymous donor.
Durand genealogy - Gift of Samuel Durand, Palo Alto, Cal.
Britannia sugar & creamer, small school-bell both used in his school by great grandfather of donor, in E. Lyme - Gift of Mrs. Wm. R. Fallstick Medford, N.J.
Christopher Houston, 1829-92, comp. by Kenneth Houston - Gift of compiler.
Photographs & snapshots, ms. of 1899 speech of Ernest Rogers, pamphlet on whaleship Charles W. Morgan - Gift of Mrs. E. Gorton Rogers.
Large map & key, Historic record of New London & Groton - Gift of L. Whitman.
Framed watercolor of Shaw Mansion - Gift of Union Trust Co.
The John Perrin family. 1974 - Bought by Society.
Whaling Industry of New London, R.O.Decker - Bought by Society.
Families of Ancient New Haven, Donald L. Jacobus - Bought by Society.

TO ALL STAMP COLLECTORS

There is to be the Thames Stamp Club Show at Ocean Beach on the third Sunday in October, and from here on, we are more than a little vague. Emil Soderberg, a member of the Advisory Board, designed and had printed a cachet (we think), more-or-less in honor of the up-coming Bicentennial. Anyway, it was authorized by the Society, and will be for sale to those interested. Unfortunately Mr. Soderberg is out of the country and thus out of our reach, so we could find out more definitely just what he did have done. It does have something to do with New London, that we know, it is of interest to stamp collectors, and isn't a stamp.

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NEWSPAPER COURSE

Connecticut College's Newspaper Course is to be held initially at the Shaw Mansion, Wednesday, October 2, at 7:30. If those taking the course like the surroundings, more will be held here. It is not a large group, so it won't entail setting up folding chairs, and can be much more informal.

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Please notify office of change of address.

Mrs. Albina Hamel - Resident Custodian
Mrs. Adam L. Knox - Secretary & Curator Phone - 443-1209

FROM: The New London County Historical
Society - Shaw Mansion
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